

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND BURGESSES OF THE BOROUGH OF  
GLASTONBURY.

# Medical Officer's Report for 1938.

MRS. BATH AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1938.

This is an Ordinary Report as defined in Paragraph 3 of Circular 269 of December 28th, 1921.

## 1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area.—5,019 Acres.

Population.—Registrar-General's Estimate Mid-1938 : 4,455.

Number of Inhabited Houses (according to Rate Books end of 1938) : 1,382.

Rateable Value (as at December 31st, 1938) : £25,981.

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate : £104 3s.

The chief occupations of the Inhabitants are :—

1. Employment in Factories (Glove, Skin Rug, Boot and Shoe, etc.).
2. Agricultural Work.

## 2.—EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

		TOTAL.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate ..	53	32	21	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 12.1
	Illegitimate ..	1	0	1	
Stillbirths .. ..	.. ..	0	0	0	
Deaths .. ..	.. ..	52	27	25	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 11.67

### Rates for England and Wales (1938) per 1,000 Population :

BIRTH RATE.—Live : 15.1. Still : 0.60. DEATH RATE (all causes) : 11.6.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis .. ..	1	18.51
No. 30 Other puerperal causes ..	0	0.0
<b>Total.. ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18.51</b>

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births.. ..	74.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	75.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .. ..	9
„ „ Measles (all ages) .. ..	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) .. ..	0
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .. ..	1

Deaths of Children under 1 year of age .. .. 4

## 3.—AMOUNT OF POOR LAW RELIEF, HOSPITALS AND FORMS OF GRATUITOUS MEDICAL RELIEF.

General Hospitals in the vicinity are utilized when the nature of the case makes it desirable.

Apart from ordinary relief granted under Public Assistance there are no important forms of gratuitous medical relief other than those provided by the County Tuberculosis Orthopaedic and School Medical and Dental Schemes.

#### 4.—PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

A joint Isolation Hospital is now provided at Shepton Mallet, under the County Council Scheme, to accommodate patients from the Borough, the Urban Districts of Wells, Shepton Mallet Frome and Street and the Rural Districts of Frome, Shepton Mallet and Wells.

The County Council undertakes the provision of Hospital accommodation for Small Pox and Tuberculosis.

By arrangement with the County Medical Officer a few babies suffering from nutritional defects can be taken into Bridgwater Hospital.

The Infant Welfare Clinic which was opened in the latter part of 1933 has now become firmly established. It is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in each month, and is available for the use not only of mothers and children from the Borough of Glastonbury, but also for those of certain surrounding districts.

Dental treatment for expectant mothers at a Clinic especially established for the purpose is now provided by the County Council.

The Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics run in conjunction with the Infant Welfare Clinic were superseded, as from May 1st, 1938, by a comprehensive scheme for the whole County under the authority of the County Council.

#### 5.—AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Glastonbury and Street Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association possess an efficient Ambulance which is available on application being made to the Superintendent, 58, High Street, Glastonbury.

No contribution is made towards the cost or upkeep of this Ambulance by the local authority.

#### 6.—PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

These comprise one part-time Medical Officer of Health and one Sanitary Inspector (full time).

#### 7.—PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

- (a) General.—One trained Nurse is available. She is supported entirely by voluntary contributions.
- (b) Infectious.—No provision is made. Private Nurses are obtained by the patient when required.
- (c) Midwifery.—One qualified Midwife who is also a fully trained Nurse is available for all maternity cases.

#### 8.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

**Geology.**—Lower Lias, Clay and Limestone in the upper and more populated parts of the Borough and Alluvial Peat in the lower and surrounding districts.

**Water Supply.**—The public supply is owned by the Corporation and practically the whole of the houses in the Borough are supplied from the Corporation Springs or Reservoirs. A few isolated farms and six houses in the town obtain water from private wells.

The main (low level) supply is obtained from Springs at West Compton and Ringwell in the Parish of Pilton, and also from a 10in. Bore-hole at West Compton, which is fitted with electrically driven pumping plant, and which is brought into use to augment the supply during the summer months.

An open storage reservoir of 5,000,000 gallons capacity is situated at Edgarley, within the Borough, to which the Compton water above mentioned is conveyed by means of approximately 1,960 yards of 9in. stoneware pipes (with special joints) laid on the contour and approximately 7,540 yards of 7in. and 9in. cast iron pressure main. The Parish of West Pennard (Wells Rural District) is supplied in bulk en route.

The High Level supply is obtained from a Spring at Wellhouse, where there is a small storage reservoir of 147,000 gallons capacity from which the water is pumped to the High Level Reservoir at the top of Wellhouse Lane, which has a capacity of 100,000 gallons.

There is also a Spring and small reservoir at Edmund Hill, which supplies a part of the Old Wells Road and the far end of Wells Road. Another small spring and reservoir supplies the Cemetery and a few houses on the Wells Road.

**Quantity.**—Despite the drought a full supply of water for domestic purposes was maintained throughout the year, but restrictions on the use of hose were imposed for a period.

Proposed additional supplies are under consideration, and with the knowledge of the Ministry of Health have been referred to the highest experts for advice.

**Quality.**—By arrangement with the County Public Health Department samples for Bacteriological examination are now taken quarterly by the Sanitary Inspector, and are sent to the County Laboratory at Taunton, where the examination of any additional samples is also undertaken.

The main supply is hard. No lead services are used, the whole being of galvanised iron.

Samples taken during 1938 gave the following results :—

#### SAMPLES FROM HIGH LEVEL SUPPLY.

Date taken. 1938.	Where taken.	Excretal B. coli.	Streptococci.
Jan. 6th.	From Spring	Absent from 50 c.c. . .	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
Feb. 7th	From Tap	30 to 100 per litre ..	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
April 26th	From Reservoir	Absent from 50 c.c. . .	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
July 20th	From Tap	Absent from 50 c.c. . .	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
Oct. 11th	From Tap	Absent from 50 c.c. . .	.. Absent from 50 c.c.

#### SAMPLES FROM LOW LEVEL SUPPLY.

Jan. 6th	Inlet to Reservoir	Absent from 50 c.c. . .	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
Feb. 7th	From Tap	30 to 100 per litre ..	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
April 26th	From Reservoir	Absent from 50 c.c. . .	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
July 20th	From Tap	30 to 100 per litre ..	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
Aug. 18th	From Tap	30 to 100 per litre ..	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
Sept. 7th	From Tap	100 to 1,000 per litre	.. Absent from 50 c.c.
Oct. 11th	From Tap	30 to 100 per litre	.. 30 to 100 per litre

**Chlorination.**—This matter was under consideration at the end of the year.

**Rivers and Streams.**—The owners of the two skin yards situated on the banks of the Mill Stream have both installed settling tanks, filters and other works for purifying their works effluents, and I have had no complaint of pollution since same were installed.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**—The whole of the Borough is sewered (with the exception of the outlying areas), and the sewage from the upper portion of the Borough, i.e., above St. Benedict's Church, gravitates by means of an inverted syphon pipe to the Sewage Disposal Works at Cradle Bridge. The lower levels, i.e., Northload Bridge, Benedict Street (below the Church), Beckery and Northover (including The Roman Way) drain to tanks at Northload Bridge and Porchestall Drove, and the sewage from these is pumped into the syphon.

The Sewage Disposal Works comprise : Detritus Tanks in duplicate, 3 tanks on the Dortmund principle and 4 filters with revolving sprinklers. The effluent discharges into the South Drain and is satisfactory.

**Additional and Improvement Works.**—The following works in accordance with plans prepared by Col. W. H. Bateman, Consulting Engineer, of Bath, have been commenced :—

1. The construction of storm overflows and storm overflow drains and the re-laying of part of the sewer in King Street and Northload Street to overcome the flooding nuisance in King Street.
2. The installation of automatically controlled electrically driven pumping plant at Northload Bridge Pumping Station to overcome the smell nuisance at the back of Northload Street.
3. The construction of a new storm overflow and drain to prevent flooding in Benedict Street.
4. New Sewers and Pumping Station for the new houses on the Tor View Estate.
5. New Sewers and Pumping Station for the Wells Road and Old Wells Road areas, which will remedy the following unsatisfactory conditions :—
  - (a) Sewer in Old Wells Road at present discharging to a ditch.
  - (b) Nuisance from overflow from the Council's present sewage tank at Brindham.
  - (c) Nuisances from cesstank overflows on the Wells Road.
6. The relaying of the sewer in Magdalene Street.

**Closet Accommodation.**—With the exception of a few isolated houses where there is difficulty in arranging for drainage all closets are on the water carriage system. There are approximately 240 w.c.s in the Borough which are not fitted with flushing cisterns. All new w.c.s are fitted with flushing cisterns.

**Refuse Collection.**—This work is carried out by a Contractor under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. A motor vehicle with a covered body and fitted with tipping gear is now used for this work. Collections of refuse are now made as follows :—Thrice weekly in the congested areas, twice weekly in the greater part of the district, once weekly in outlying areas, and once a month at Edgarley, Haviatt and Wellhouse Lane.

All refuse collected is hauled to the tip at the Sewage Disposal Works, where it is sorted and, as far as possible, burnt in open fires. The Council have entered into a contract with a firm of experts for the treatment of the Tip against Rats.

**Sanitary Inspection.**—See Sanitary Inspector's Report appended hereto.

**Camping Sites.**—There are no large Camping Sites in the Borough. Licences have been granted in respect of two small sites adjacent to Guest Houses, but it is doubtful if either site is occupied on a sufficient number of occasions in each year to warrant the necessity for a licence.

**Smoke Abatement.**—No factories within the Borough give out black smoke.

**Swimming Baths and Pools.**—There are no Public Baths in the Borough and no privately owned baths or pools open to the public.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs.**—No instance arose during the year.

**Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws :—**

**COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**—One Registered. This is regularly inspected and is always well kept.

**TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS USED FOR HUMAN HABITATION.**—The model Bye-Laws have been adopted. A number of van dwellers attend the annual "Tor Fair," which is held in a field adjoining the Street Road and usually lasts a week. Temporary latrines are erected by the lessee and the town water supply is laid on to the field.

**Other Sanitary Conditions Requiring Notice.**—None.

**Schools.**—The Boys' and Girls' Elementary Schools are both provided with town water and are fitted with up-to-date lavatory accommodation with flushing cisterns, and are drained to the main sewers.

## 9.—HOUSING.

**General Housing Conditions in the Area.**—The general housing conditions in the Borough have much improved in recent years.

Under the Council's Slum Clearance Programme it was estimated that there were 25 houses which should be demolished, and as a result of action taken up to the end of 1938 this number has already been exceeded, though the programme has not yet been completed.

As a result of action taken during the year 45 persons were displaced from unfit houses, and the majority of them have been re-housed in the new Council Flats.

204 Dwellings have now been provided by the Council, viz.:—

Parlour Type Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	138
Non-Parlour Type Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
Flats (2 bedroomed)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
								—
								204

The population (1931 Census) was 4,514, being an increase of 189 since the 1921 Census. Estimated Population (Mid-1938): 4,455.

**Overcrowding.**—The Survey made under the Housing Act, 1935, revealed 11 cases of overcrowding in the Borough, or 1.16 per cent.

The percentage for Somerset was 1.6, and for England and Wales 3.8.

## HOUSING STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(1) BY LOCAL AUTHORITY :—

(a) With State Assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
(b) Without State Assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

(2) BY OTHER BODIES OR PERSONS :—

(a) With State Assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(b) Without State Assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	19

Total 35

## 1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

1 (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .	43
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	56
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under Sub-Head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 .. .. .	21
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	24
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	14
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. .. .	26

## 2. Remedy of Defects Without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .. .. .	18
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## 3. Action under Statutory Powers.

### A.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners .. .. .	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .. .. .	0

NOTE.—In one case the house was demolished instead of being repaired, and in the other cases the notices had not expired at end of year.

### B.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. .	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners .. .. .	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .. .. .	0

### C.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11, 13 AND 26 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	10
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ..	4

NOTE.—The others were vacated, but had not been demolished by end of year.

(3) Clearance Orders made .. .. .	2
(4) Clearance Orders Confirmed .. .. .	2
(a) Number of houses involved .. .. .	9
(b) Number of houses in Clearance Areas demolished .. .. .	9

(NOTE.—The houses in the " Clearance Areas " were inspected and represented during 1937.)

(5) Houses Closed on Undertaking, but subsequently demolished .. .. .	1
(6) Houses the subject of formal notice under Section 11 which are being reconditioned under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts .. .. .	2
(3 houses are being converted into 2.)	

### D.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. .	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. .. .	0

## 4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year .. .. .	3
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein .. .. .	3
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein (individuals).. .. .	22
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. .. .	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. .. .	2
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases .. .. .	12
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding..	None.
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report .. .. .	None.

## 10.—LABORATORY WORK.

Examinations of various pathological specimens with a view to the detectoin of certain specific diseases are undertaken at the County Health Laboratories.

Examinations of specimens in relation to Venereal Diseases are made at Bristol University.

Throat swabs and sputum outfits are kept by me for use in the Borough by Medical Practitioners.

## 11.—LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

### Acts (Adoptive) in force in the Area.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1890 :	Date Adopted.
Part 1. General .. .. .	} 6th January, 1891.
Part 3. Sanitary and other provisions .. .. .	
Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890 .. .. .	6th January, 1891.
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907, Section 25 only .. .. .	21st June, 1926.

Public Health Act, 1925 :

Part 2. Streets and Buildings .. .. .	} 21st June, 1926.
Part 3. Sanitary Provisions .. .. .	
Part 4. Verminous Premises, etc. .. .. .	

(Including Sections 21, 22 and 44.)

NOTE.—Some of the above provisions have now been repealed or re-enacted by the Public Health Act, 1936, which came into force on October 1st, 1937, and further amendments are contained in the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, which comes into operation on October 1st, 1939.

### Bye-Laws in force in the Area.

By Laws with respect to :—	Date Adopted.
" The Cleansing of Footways and Pavements " .. .. .	4th September, 1894.
" Nuisances " .. .. .	.. " " "
" Common Lodging Houses " .. .. .	.. " " "
" The Trades of a Fellmonger, Tanner and Leather Dresser .. .. .	.. " " "
" The Prevention of Danger from Whirligigs, Swings, etc." : .. .. .	.. " " "
" Good Rule and Government " .. .. .	.. 1st August, 1899.
" Public Vehicles " .. .. .	.. 2nd October, 1923.
" New Streets and Buildings " .. .. .	.. 7th October, 1924.
" Slaughter-Houses " .. .. .	.. 31st July, 1928.
" Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., used for Human Habitation " .. .. .	.. 4th December, 1928.
" Petrol Filling Stations " .. .. .	.. 30th October, 1934.
" Nuisances caused by the Operation of Noisy Wireless Loud Speakers, Gramophones, etc." .. .. .	.. 4th December, 1934.

## 12.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. PARTICULARS FOR 1938.

1. Slaughter Houses.—Registered : 4. Licensed : 2. TOTAL : 6.

(Length of time for which Licences are granted : ONE YEAR.)

2. Notices under Article 8 of Regulations :—

(a) The person appointed to receive such Notices : HUGH W. HEMBURY, Sanitary Inspector.

(b) Number of Slaughter-house occupiers who have given only a notice of slaughtering at fixed times on fixed days : 3.

Number of Slaughter-house occupiers who have not given such notice, but give notice at each time of slaughtering : 3.

3. Notices received under Article 9 of the Regulations : 7.

Notices of Emergency Slaughter received during year : 0.

4. Carcases Inspected and Condemned :—

	Bullocks.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Inspected .. .. .	241	96	480	594
All Diseases EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :				
Whole carcases condemned .. ..	0	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. . . .	9	0	18	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .. . . .	3.73	0	3.75	1.17
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :—				
Whole carcases condemned .. ..	1	0	0	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	16	0	0	23
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .. ..	7.05	0	0	4.20

Milk Supply.

- (a) Number of Producers on Register : 51.
- (b) Number of Distributors : 14 (of which 4 are Distributors only and 10 are Producers as well as Distributors).
- 3 Registers are kept, viz. : (1) Producers ; (2) Retail Purveyors, and (3) Premises used as Dairies.
- Number of Licences granted to Graded Milk Distributors : 1 (Dealer's Licence to retail " Tuberculin Tested " Milk).

Bakehouses.

Number on Register : 6. There are no underground Bakehouses in the Borough.

13.—THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY & WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, AND THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on July 1st, 1938).

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health. INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Premises.  (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	*Written Notices. (Informal.) (3)	Occupiers. prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power .. .. .	28	17	—
Factories without mechanical power .. ..	18	3	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises) .. ..	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	46	20	—

## 2. Defects Found.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of Cleanliness or Whiteliming (Sec. 1) ..	2	2		
Overcrowding (S. 2) .. .. .	0	0		
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) .. .. .	0	0		
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) .. .. .	0	0		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) .. .. .	0	0		
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) :—				
Insufficient .. .. .	1	0	—	
Whiteliming or Cleansing Required ..	10	5	—	
Unsuitable or Defective .. .. .	11	2	—	
Artificial Lighting Required .. .. .	14	2	—	
Not Separate for Sexes .. .. .	0	0	—	
Communicating directly with Workroom ..	3	1	—	
Not Readily Accessible .. .. .	4	0	—	
Other Offences .. .. .	0	0		
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
Total ..	45	12	—	Nil

\* The above inspections were made during October/December, and all matters requiring attention have been communicated to the occupiers concerned. Some were remedied by the end of the year, and further inspections will be made with a view to statutory notices being served where matters have not been attended to within a reasonable time.

**Outworkers.**—Eight firms or contractors in the Borough employ a total of 297 outworkers, many of whom are resident in the districts of other Local Authorities.

## 14.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox .. .. .	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	5	3	0
Diphtheria .. .. .	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .. .. .	0	0	0
Dysentery .. .. .	0	0	0
Malaria .. .. .	0	0	0
Pneumonia .. .. .	4	0	3
Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	0	0	0
Other diseases notifiable locally :			
Erysipelas .. .. .	2	0	0

15.—TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods. Years.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Total Cases of Tuberculosis in the Borough at end of 1938	Pulmonary. M. F.		Non-Pulmonary M. F.		TOTAL. M. F.			
	14	10	7	3	21	13		
Total Cases of Tuberculosis in the Borough at end of 1937 ..	15	11	5	5	20	16		

Notification of Tuberculosis in the Area is satisfactory, and there was no case of death from Tuberculosis of a person who had not been notified as suffering from that disease. I am not aware of any unnotified case of Tuberculosis or of any notified Tuberculosis person being employed in the milk trade during 1938.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

T. H. A. PINNIGER,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

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TO DR. T. H. A. PINNIGER, M.B., MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, GLASTONBURY

Sir,—Herewith I beg to hand you a summary of my visits and inspections and of sanitary work done during the year ended 31st December, 1938.

I am pleased to report that in most cases matters were remedied as a result of informal action.

**Bakehouses.**—These are regularly inspected to ensure that whiteliming, etc., is carried out at the prescribed times.

**Drainage.**—The drains at No. 6, Market Place and at the “George Tap” in Northload Street were found to be connected to old stone drains, and in both instances new drains have been laid and connected to the main sewers.

A defective section of sewer off Chilkwell Street has been re-laid, and defective drains have been repaired or partially renewed at 13 other premises.

**Factories Act.**—Lists of Outworkers are forwarded to me twice a year by employers, and the names and addresses of Outworkers resident in other districts are extracted and communicated to the Sanitary Inspectors concerned.

**Housing Act, 1936 (Parts II. and III.).**—Four of the houses on which Demolition Orders were made were demolished during the year. The remainder were vacated, but demolition had not been commenced at the end of the year.

An undertaking was accepted from the owner of No. 29A, Northload Street not to let the house for human habitation and this house was eventually demolished.

No. 48E, Benedict Street in respect of which notice was served requiring repairs, was demolished voluntarily by the owner under an improvement scheme under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.

Nine unfit houses in the two “Clearance Areas” were demolished during the year.

(Part IV.)—The provisions of the Act regarding Overcrowding have been advertised, and a further number of houses have been measured and the necessary certificates supplied to Landlords for the purpose of entry of the “permitted number” in Rent Books.

One new case of overcrowding was reported during the year, which was due to increase in family since the survey of 1936.

**Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.**—Details of grants available toward the cost of re-conditioning cottages have been made known, and several properties were inspected during the year in company with the County Sanitary Inspector as to the feasibility of owners' proposals.

Plans for a scheme at 46, 48A, 48B, 48C, 48D and 48E, Benedict Street (known as Edwards' Square), which provided for the conversion of the three houses fronting to Benedict Street into two houses and the demolition of all the houses at the rear (including two on which Demolition Orders had been made), were approved and a grant of £200 was authorised by the County Council, and work has been commenced.

Plans for the conversion of an outbuilding into a cottage at Edgarley were also approved and a grant authorised, but the scheme was not proceeded with.

**Infectious Diseases.**—Inquiries and inspections are made in connection with the notification of cases of Infectious Disease with a view to ascertaining the possible source of infection. Any sanitary defects found during such inspections have been remedied.

Disinfection of premises is carried out after all cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria by fumigation with Formalin and/or spraying with “Izal,” and disinfectant is supplied to the householder. Disinfection is also carried out after cases of Tuberculosis when requested by the County Health visitor.

**Milk Supply.**—Many of the Cowstalls in the Borough have been improved in recent years by the provision of concrete floors, etc., and eleven new Cowstalls, constructed on up-to-date lines, have been erected.

Two producers hold “Tuberculin Tested” Licences and six hold “Accredited” Licences, and other applications are pending.

**Health of Cows.**—At the request of the County Medical Officer of Health samples of milk were collected from three herds during the year for examination for Tubercle Bacilli, all of which were found to be satisfactory. (Number of Cows involved: 104.)

**Designated Milks.**—Samples of “Tuberculin Tested,” “Accredited” and “Pasteurised” Milk have been taken on behalf of the County Council. These samples are forwarded to the County Laboratory for examination and the results are appended.

**Public Health (Meat) Regulations.**—The quality of the meat killed in the Borough is good, though the number of condemnations during the past year has been higher than usual. Approximately 80 per cent. of the meat killed is inspected, which includes a large number of Pigs, also Calves and Lambs for consignment to the London Markets.

Details of carcasses inspected and condemned are given in the form prescribed. In no case was formal seizure necessary, the whole of the meat condemned being readily surrendered by the butchers concerned.

The Slaughter-houses and Meat Shops generally are kept clean, and any want of whiteliming, etc., has been attended to when pointed out. There are no Meat Stalls in the Borough.

**Refuse Collection.**—The area of collection has been extended under the new contract, and thrice weekly collections are now made in some parts of the town, and the new arrangements are working very satisfactorily. A large number of requests have been issued requiring the provision of regulation dustbins, and 90 per cent. of the premises from which refuse is collected are now provided with regulation bins.

## SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

Nuisances and Miscellaneous .. .. .	194
Verminous or unwholesome Premises .. .. .	15
Refuse Removal .. .. .	5
Tents, Vans, Etc., and Camping Sites .. .. .	16
Common Lodging House .. .. .	4
SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT SHOPS .. .. .	504

### HOUSING ACT :—

Housing Defects .. .. .	56
Demolition Orders and Clearance Areas .. .. .	33
Overcrowding Provisions .. .. .	17

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS .. .. .	9
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MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER .. .. .	82
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DRAIN WORK, IN CONNECTION WITH (Renewals, Repairs and Extensions) .. .. .	228
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FACTORIES ACT .. .. .	46
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INFECTIOUS DISEASES, IN CONNECTION WITH .. .. .	15
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Total .. 1,224

## WORK DONE.

Number of Complaints received and dealt with .. .. .	68
Verminous or Unwholesome Premises Fumigated or Sprayed .. .. .	4
Nuisances from Animals Abated .. .. .	5
Removals of Manure or Other Accumulations .. .. .	2
Miscellaneous Nuisances Abated .. .. .	10
Defective Dwelling Houses Repaired .. .. .	19
Unfit Dwelling Houses Demolished .. .. .	14
Parts of Buildings Closed .. .. .	0
Dwelling Houses Measured .. .. .	12
New Cases of Overcrowding Reported .. .. .	1
Cases of Overcrowding Relieved .. .. .	2
Nuisances from Cestanks dealt with .. .. .	7
Blocked Drains Unchoked .. .. .	12
Defective Drains Repaired .. .. .	13
Defective Drainage Systems Re-laid .. .. .	3
Defective W.C.s Renewed or Repaired .. .. .	11
Existing Water Closets Fitted with Flushing Cisterns .. .. .	9
Semi-Public Conveniences Re-built and Modernised .. .. .	1
Samples of Water taken for Bacteriological Examination :—Public Supplies .. .. .	12
Private Supplies .. .. .	1

Number of Statutory Notices Served (Excluding Demolition and Clearance Orders and Notices relative thereto)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Number of Written Informal Notices or Requests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	63
Circular Letters to Landlords Requiring Provision of Dustbins	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	125
Certificates Issued under Rent Restriction Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

#### Meat Inspection :—

Number of Carcases examined :

Bullocks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	241
Calves..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
Sheep and Lambs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	480
Pigs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	594

1,411

#### Milk Samples :—

Description.	Number taken.	Satisfactory.	Results. Unsatisfactory.
" Tuberculin Tested "	.. .. 11	7	4
" Accredited "	.. .. 18	10	8
" Pasteurised "	.. .. 2	1	1*
Herd samples for examination for Tubercle Bacilli	.. .. 3	3	0
	34	21	13

\*Regulations complied with, but evidence of some contamination after Pasteurisation.

#### Disinfection :—Rooms Disinfected :—

Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Library Books Disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

HUGH W. HEMBURY,  
Sanitary Inspector.